

REMARKS

The allowance of claims 1, 2, 9-14, 19 and 20 is noted with appreciation. It is respectfully submitted that the clarity and antecedent basis rejection based on 35 U.S.C. § 112 should be withdrawn in light of the above amendments. Claim 3 has been revised to make it clear that the first sub-component is what is being referred and deletion of the word "the" in lines 4 and 5 of claim 6 eliminates the antecedent basis objection. Since claim 3 and claim 6 had the same "the" language, a similar change has been made to claim 3.

It is believed that the present application is now in condition to be allowed and the early issuance for a Notice of Allowance is respectfully solicited.

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Respectfully submitted,

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December 12, 2000

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